

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

B. P., et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

ALEJANDRO MAYORKAS, et al.,

Defendants.

CASE NO. C23-0890JLR

ORDER

Before the court is Plaintiffs B.P. and L.E.S.’s (together, “Plaintiffs”) motion for a protective order permitting them to proceed in this action using only the first initials of their first and last names. (Mot. (Dkt. # 2).) Defendants did not file a response to Plaintiffs’ motion.¹ (*See* Dkt.) The court has reviewed the motion and the governing

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¹ “Except for motions for summary judgment, if a party fails to file papers in opposition to a motion, such failure may be considered by the court as an admission that the motion has merit.” Local Rules W.D. Wash. LCR 7(b)(2).

1 law. Being fully advised, the court GRANTS Plaintiffs' motion and ORDERS as
2 follows:

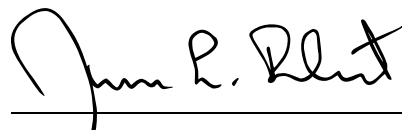
3 1. Plaintiffs' motion is granted. There is a strong public interest in restricting
4 the identity of asylum seekers from the public. *See* 8 C.F.R. §§ 208.6, 1208.6 (2014).
5 Plaintiffs B.P. and L.E.S. have demonstrated a reasonable fear of severe harm to
6 themselves if their identities are disclosed; the public interest favors their remaining
7 anonymous; and Defendants are not injured since Plaintiffs' identities are not being
8 withheld from them.

9 2. Plaintiffs B.P. and L.E.S. shall proceed in this action using only the first
10 initials of their first and last names and their identities shall remain confidential to all but
11 this court and Defendants.

12 3. Defendants shall use only B.P. and L.E.S.'s initials in all of their filings,
13 including all exhibits in which their names appear.

14 4. Nothing in this order shall be construed as limiting or precluding
15 Defendants from using B.P. and L.E.S.'s full names and identities or information derived
16 from their full names and identities in the ordinary course of Defendants' lawful business
17 as allowed by law or from sharing their full names and identities with other government
18 entities and as done in Defendants' ordinary course of business as allowed by law.

19 Dated this 5th day of July, 2023.

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22 JAMES L. ROBART
United States District Judge